



# ***News Release***

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY  
William Bell, Acting Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Visit our DES web site at  
[www.de.state.az.us](http://www.de.state.az.us)

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Liz Barker  
(602) 542-4296

## **MULTI-DISCIPLINARY REVIEW PANEL ON INFANT'S DEATH SCHEDULES FIRST MEETING**

PHOENIX – (May 23, 2003) The first meeting of a multi-disciplinary panel formed by the Department of Economic Security to review the death of Patrick Traufler, a 6-week-old infant who was allegedly shaken by his foster mother and subsequently died, will be held on May 29.

The review panel, which will be chaired by Valley pediatrician and Arizona Child Fatality Review Program chair Dr. Mary Rimsza, will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 215 of the Department of Environmental Quality building at 1110 W. Washington.

“The death of a child while in foster care is horrifying; it compels us to take a hard look at our actions and at the policies and procedures that guided those actions,” said DES Acting Director William Bell. “We need to know what, if anything, should have been done differently and if there are changes that can be made to ensure this can’t happen again.”

In addition to determining whether existing policies and procedures were appropriate in this case, Bell said the panel may examine related issues, such as: foster parent licensing and training; the number of children permitted in each home; time between placements of children in homes; and, resources available to help foster parents.

The panel, which may choose to convene additional meetings, will review the case and present its findings to Bell.

The meeting is open to the public, but seating is limited.